

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7220

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0418

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PINS, FI, PO, TZ, XJ

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN'S VISIT TO

AFRICA: FOREIGN MINISTRY IMPRESSIONS OF

FRELIMO

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 0495

1. IN A DISCUSSION EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER HAD WITH
DEPUTY CHIEF OF FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY POLITICAL
SECTION, DR. KEIJO KORHONEN, ON FEBRUARY 27, THE FOLLOWING VIEWS
EMERGED ON FRELIMO. ALTHOUGH THE VIEWS ARE THOSE OF
KORHONEN, THEY PROBABLY REFLECT CLOSELY THOSE OF
FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN SINCE KARJALAINEN AND
KORHONEN ARE PERSONALLY VERY CLOSE AND GENERALLY
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THINK ALIKE, AND BECAUSE KORHONEN SPENT A GREAT

DEAL OF TIME IN DISCUSSION WITH KARJALAINEN DURING THE TRIP TO AFRICA, AND ALSO FELT FREE TO SET OUT OFFICIAL FINNISH POLICY IN TALKS WITH AFRICAN OFFICIALS.

2. DURING THE VISIT TO TANZANIA, THE FINNISH GROUP HAD TALKS WITH FRELIMO VP DOS SANTOS. KORHONEN SAID THAT BOTH KARJALAINEN AND HE HAD BEEN SINGULARLY UNIMPRESSED WITH DOS SANTOS AND HAD FOUND HIM ABRASIVE, ARGUMENTATIVE, AND UNSTABLE. KORHONEN SAID THAT FRELIMO CLAIMED TO CONTROL ONE THIRD OF THE TERRITORY IN MOZAMBIQUE. WHEN KORHONEN ASKED DOS SANTOS WHERE FRELIMO HAD ITS CAPITAL IN THE AREAS THEY CLAIMED TO CONTROL, DOS SANTOS HAD BECOME ABUSIVE BUT UNABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION. KORHONEN ALSO SAID THAT FRELIMO HAD WANTED TO MAKE IT APPEAR THAT THE MEETING CONSTITUTED AN OFFICIAL VISIT BY A FINNISH GOVERNMENTAL DELEGATION TO THE FRELIMO MOZAMBIQUE "GOVERNMENT," AN ATTEMPT THAT KORHONEN CLAIMS TO HAVE SHOT DOWN QUICKLY. KORHONEN'S ANSWER TO FRELIMO'S REQUEST FOR ARMS HAD BEEN A FLAT: "ABSOLUTELY NOT." KORHONEN ALSO SAID THAT DOS SANTOS WAS INTENT ON PREVENTING THE COMPLETION OF THE BIG CABORA BASSA DAM THAT IS BEING BUILT IN MOZAMBIQUE. WHEN KORHONEN POINTED OUT THAT THIS SEEMED RATHER STUPID SINCE THE DAM IS IN THE AREA THAT FRELIMO CLAIMED TO CONTROL NOW OR IN THE NEAR FUTURE, DOS SANTOS HAD REPLIED THAT THE DAM HAD TO BE PREVENTED BECAUSE IT WOULD ATTRACT ADDED EUROPEAN INVESTMENT INTO MOZAMBIQUE AND, ONCE THE INVESTMENT HAD TAKEN PLACE, THE VARIOUS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD SUPPORT PORTUGAL EVEN MORE THAN NOW.

3. KORHONEN'S ASSESSMENT WAS THAT FRELIMO DOES HAVE A FAIRLY SIZEABLE "ARMY," IN AFRICAN TERMS, AND A "GOVERNMENTAL" ORGANIZATION OF SORTS, AS WELL AS ACTIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS AND HOSPITALS, BUT THAT ALL OF THIS WAS LOCATED IN AND OPERATING OUT OF TANZANIA. KORHONEN FELT THAT FRELIMO'S CLAIM TO CONTROL TERRITORY IN MOZAMBIQUE WAS NOT SUPPORTABLE, CONFIDENTIAL

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SINCE IT APPARENTLY COULD NOT FULLY CONTROL EVEN A SMALL CORNER OF MOZAMBIQUE. HE WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THEIR "CONTROL" WAS PROBABLY MORE LIKE THAT OF PAIGC IN GUINEA-BISSAU -- ONLY AT NIGHT, AND TEMPORARY AT THAT.

4. KORHONEN FOUND IT SIGNIFICANT THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE IN HIS SPEECH HAD SAID THAT TANZANIA PROVIDES

FRELIMO WITH TRAINING, FUNDS, AND SPACE, MEANING
TO KORHONEN THAT FRELIMO COULD ONLY OPERATE FROM
BASE AREAS IN TANZANIA.

5. IN GENERAL, KORHONEN DOES NOT FEEL THAT EXPOSURE
TO AFRICA HAS CHANGED KARJALAINEN'S MIND ABOUT
PROCEEDING VERY CAUTIOUSLY ON THE RECOGNITION OF
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS QUESTION. THIS WAS KARJALAINEN'S
FIRST TRIP TO AFRICA, PLANNED LONG AGO, POSTPONED
FROM SEPTEMBER, AND ONE THAT HE BOTH WANTED TO MAKE
AND FELT HE SHOULD SINCE ALL THE OTHER SCANDINAVIAN
FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD BEEN THERE AT SOME TIME. THE
FINNS WILL CONTINUE THEIR AID TO AFRICA, INCLUDING
"HUMANITARIAN" AID TO LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, BUT WILL
CONTINUE TO KEEP IT EIGHTY PERCENT TIED TO PURCHASES
FROM FINLAND.
KREHBIEL

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